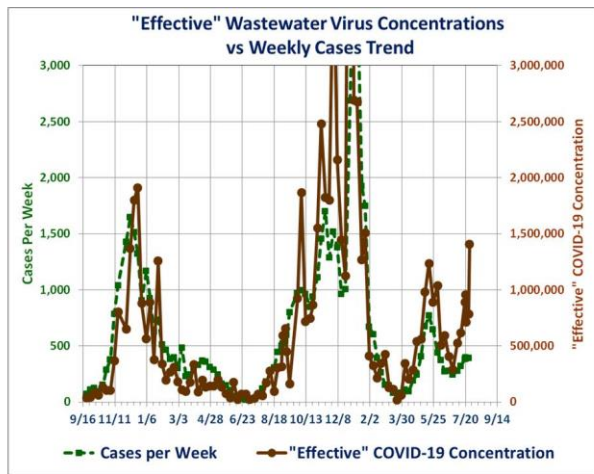




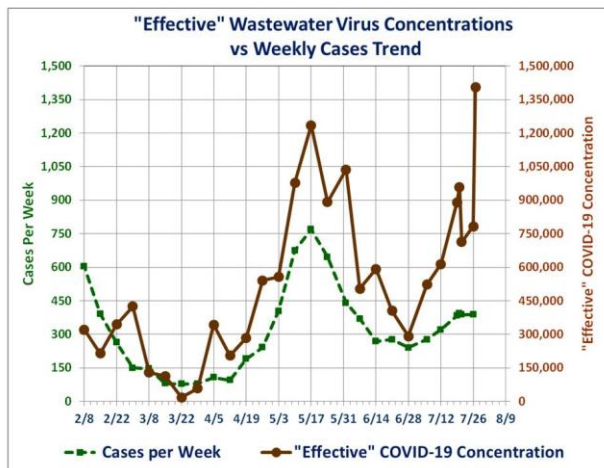
Analysis of COVID-19 in Wastewater

Aug. 2, 2022 Report



In this report, predicted cases are based on the amount of virus in wastewater connected to the number of cases of COVID-19 diagnosed by testing in our community. These studies are done by Biobot, the company that performs our wastewater testing.

The amount of virus in wastewater reflects the amount of virus in the community. Generally, wastewater values and number of identified cases follow similar courses and can be helpful to follow the course of the pandemic in Erie County.



Wastewater virus levels rapidly rose last week to levels exceeding the peak of the prior Omicron wave and indicating a much larger amount of COVID-19 spreading in Erie.

This is not reflected in the clinical case numbers, indicating few infected people are being officially tested. Based on prior variant data reporting, this is all likely due to the BA.5 variant.

Remember

The single most important action that everyone can take to reduce the severity of any potential future COVID-19 surge is to get all recommended vaccinations and boosters when eligible.

Vaccination and boosters have been shown to reduce the risks of getting infection, severe illness, the need for hospitalization and death. It also reduces the risk of developing long COVID illness.

Boosters extend the effectiveness of vaccines against COVID-19 and help protect against variants.

Free vaccines and boosters are available for residents of Erie County. For list of local vaccination sites, visit eriecountypa.gov/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine.